



Naval Education Training News

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NETN0101 Task Force Warrior Stands Up, from Chief of Naval
Personnel Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- The Navy's efforts to make Sea Warrior fully
operational gained significant momentum recently with the
announcement of Rear Adm. Donna Crisp as Assistant to the Chief
of Naval Personnel for Sea Warrior.

Crisp will take over the newly created Task Force Warrior, which
is headquartered in Norfolk, Va.

The mission of Task Force Warrior is to better integrate the
Navy's many manpower, personnel and training systems into a
single human resource management system and deliver that
capability to the fleet as Sea Warrior.

"This is an incredibly exciting venture," said Chief of Naval Personnel Vice Adm. Gerry Hoewing. "It's all about our transformation for the future, about leveraging technology and tapping into the genius of our people to make us more efficient and more effective."

"A lot of work on Sea Warrior has already been done. Task Force Warrior will take that work to the next level by making sure all those great systems can work together for the good of the Navy and our Sailors."

Sea Warrior is the "people" part of Sea Power 21. Its focus is on growing individuals from the moment they walk into a recruiting office through their assignments as master chiefs or flag officers, using a career continuum of training and education that gives them the tools they need to operate in an increasingly demanding and dynamic environment.

The functions of manpower, personnel and training have grown over time in stovepipes, Hoewing noted, each with its own set of business processes. An individual moves from one organizational process to another, subject to all the discontinuities and inefficiencies associated with imperfect handoffs.

"But if those systems are built around comprehensive knowledge of each individual and the tasks required to accomplish the mission, these stovepipes can be integrated and handoffs between functions can be made seamlessly over a career," said Hoewing.

"Creating a single business process for the range of human resource management activities is exactly what Sea Warrior is all about."

Some of the systems Task Force Warrior will be working to integrate include the Five Vector Model, which captures a Sailor's progress along five vectors -- professional development, personal development, professional military education and leadership, certificates and qualifications, and professional performance. The task force will also work to include the Career Management System, which uses intelligent agents to match the right Sailors to the right jobs; and Improving the Navy's Workforce, which, when complete, will comprise a database that identifies the knowledge, skill, abilities and tools needed to perform every job in the Navy.

Task Force Warrior will work closely with the fleet to optimize readiness.

"All of these, and even some new concepts like Human Systems Integration, need to be looked at from an enterprise perspective so that not only can we avoid compatibility problems, but we also can apply sound business decisions to every aspect of human resource management," said Hoewing.

Task Force Warrior is already hard at work and expects to be manned with a small staff of 10 by the end of January 2004.

"Admiral Crisp brings a wealth of human resource management expertise to the effort," noted Hoewing. "She is precisely the right person to lead Task Force Warrior, and I welcome her to the team."

For related news, visit the Chief of Naval Personnel Navy NewsStand page at www.news.navy.mil/local/cnp.

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NETN0102 Navy Seeks Sailor Participation in 5 Vector Model Test, from Naval Education and Training Command Public Affairs

PENSACOLA, Fla. (NNS) -- The Navy is soliciting feedback on a test of the 5 Vector Model (5VM), which will soon become the primary career management tool for all Sailors.

In a recent message to the fleet (NAVADMIN 307/03), Vice Adm. Alfred G. Harms Jr., Director of Naval Education and Training, announced the BETA test, a second in a series to prepare the 5VM for introduction to the fleet. The BETA test includes additional enlisted ratings not previously tested, including those from aviation, surface engineering, cryptologic technician and construction career fields.

Harms projects having all ratings included on the 5VM by March or early April 2004.

"The 5 Vector Model will eventually be a key part of every Sailor's career tool box," said Harms. "It will play a critical role in professional and personal growth and development, the

distribution process, learning opportunities and delivery of knowledge, and improved fleet readiness."

When fully functional, the 5VM will help Sailors determine their professional status, pinpoint career milestones, and identify the skill requirements they need for specific jobs in the fleet. They will also be able to review and compare their career path with alternative routes, view their electronic training jacket, and enroll in online courses.

Sailors can now access a demonstration and tutorial for the 5VM via the Navy Knowledge Online (NKO) website at www.nko.navy.mil. Those in ratings that are part of the BETA test can also provide feedback through NKO.

"Constructive Sailor feedback is vital to this process," said Harms. "Input from the fleet will enable us to work out any system bugs, enhance usability and make necessary upgrades."

For more information on Navy education and training, visit the NETC Web site at <https://www.netc.navy.mil>.

For related news, visit the Naval Education and Training Command Navy NewsStand page at www.news.navy.mil/local/cnet.

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NETN0103 Navy Outlines Options for Sailors During CLEP Transition, story by Darlene Goodwin, Naval Education and Training Command Public Affairs

PENSACOLA, Fla. (NNS) -- Responding to a decision by the developer of the College Level Exam Program (CLEP) exams to phase out paper-based tests, the Voluntary Education staffs at the Naval Education and Training Command (NETC) and the Naval Education and Training Professional Development and Technology Center (NETPDTC) are working to maximize options for Sailors seeking college credits through testing.

The College Board, the national testing agency who owns the CLEP exams, has started transitioning from paper-based to electronic computer-based tests (eCBTs) in their national test centers. However, software and computer infrastructure issues preclude the Department of Defense (DoD) from immediately transitioning to the eCBT CLEP tests.

Although the phase-out of current paper-based tests will be complete by March 2004, College Board has agreed to develop and maintain 14 of the most requested CLEP test titles in paper form specifically for use by military members. According to Lt. Cmdr. Steven Stopler, Director, Navy Voluntary Education, the new DoD-only paper exams are scheduled to be released in April 2004.

"During the transition when Sailors will be unable to take a number of the paper-based CLEP tests at military test centers, it is important they know there are other opportunities through which they can pursue college credit by examination," said Stopler. "The Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES) Subject Standardized Test and Excelsior College Exam continue to be good options for credit by exam.

"Additionally," Stopler continued, "35 CLEP eCBTs are currently available to Sailors if they wish to take their test at a national test center located on many college and university campuses. Just because CLEP tests are not available through the military for this short period does not mean Sailors have to stop their pursuit of a college education."

It is important to note that if Sailors take the computer-based CLEP tests at a national test center, they must pay a registration fee (generally about \$20) that will not be covered by DANTES. There is no registration fee for tests taken at military test centers. Additionally, whether taking a test at a national test center or a military test center, there is an exam fee (generally about \$50).

When taking a CLEP test at a military test center, DANTES pays the exam fee, and beginning in late January or early February 2004, DANTES anticipates funding the eCBT CLEP exam fee for Sailors taking exams at a national test center. However, an exact date has not yet been established for DANTES to pay the exam fee, and Sailors should check the DANTES Web site (www.dantes.doded.mil) for the exact start date of funding for the exam fee.

As soon as the new paper-based tests are in place, the Navy will work closely with DANTES and the College Board to begin implementing CLEP eCBT exams at Navy College offices around the world. Stopler said they are targeting the end of 2005 to begin administering the CLEP tests electronically at military test centers.

"We've budgeted for the hardware for our Navy College offices to facilitate electronic CLEP tests, and once we solve the software and security issues, we will begin the next phase of transition to eCBT," said Stopler. "We are committed to providing the tools Sailors need to succeed personally and professionally at all points in their career."

For additional information, contact your nearest Navy College office, or visit the Navy College Program Web site at <https://www.navycollege.navy.mil>. You may also reach the Navy College Center by telephone, toll-free, at 1-877-253-7122 or DSN 922-1828.

For related news, visit the Naval Education and Training Command Navy NewsStand page at www.news.navy.mil/local/cnet.

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NETN0104 Navy Announces Graduate Education Voucher Program,
story by Darlene Goodwin, Naval Education and Training
Command Public Affairs

PENSACOLA, Fla. (NNS) -- The Director of Naval Education and Training recently released information for the Fiscal Year 2004 Graduate Education Voucher (GEV) program, which offers eligible unrestricted line (URL) officers the opportunity to receive funded graduate education during off-duty hours.

According to Ann Hunter, Education Director for the Naval Education and Training Command (NETC), the only significant change in this year's program is an enhanced focus on degree type. For junior officers, preferred areas of study are technical and analytical, whereas business and management programs are available to more senior officers.

"This year, officers must choose a course of study that is relevant to their Navy career," said Hunter. "This is to align the program more closely with the new Professional Military Education Continuum, currently under development."

The GEV program is open to URL active-duty list officers, paygrades O-3 through O-5, in designators 111X, 112X, 113X, 114X and 13XX. Quotas for FY04 are as follows: Surface Warfare - 47; Submarine - 40; Aviation - 40; Special Warfare/Special Operations (SPECWAR/SPECOPS) - 6.

Quotas by degree program and warfare areas are:

Science and Technology: Surface - 5
Computer Systems: Surface - 5, Aviation - 4
OPS Research/Analysis: Surface - 3, Aviation - 5, Submarine - 4,
SPECOPS - 3
Information Technology: Surface - 3, Aviation - 5, Submarine - 2
Computer Science: Aviation - 4
Information Systems Management: Surface - 4, Aviation - 4,
Submarine - 2
Engineering Management: Submarine - 16
International Affairs: Surface - 1, Aviation - 4
Finance Management/Accounting: Surface - 8, Aviation - 6,
Submarine - 6, SPECOPS - 3
International Finance: Surface - 8, Aviation - 6, Submarine - 5
Economics: Surface - 8, Aviation - 6, Submarine - 5
Strategic Studies: Surface - 2, Aviation - 3

The GEV program is targeted at officers with demonstrated superior performance and upward career mobility who are transferring, or have recently reported, to shore duty, in order to allow sufficient time for completion of a graduate program.

Officers who have already received a graduate degree funded by a Department of Defense or Veteran's education benefit are ineligible, although those currently enrolled in qualifying graduate degree programs using Tuition Assistance, other financial assistance programs or paying privately may apply.

The program benefits cover 100 percent of graduate education costs (tuition, books, registration/application fees), to a maximum of \$20,000 per year for up to 24 months from the time of enrollment (not to exceed \$40,000 total). Some restrictions apply.

Enrollment in the program carries a service obligation of three times the number of months of education completed, with a maximum of 36 months.

Interested officers should submit written requests to their detailee, per NAVADMIN 306/03.

For those not qualified for the GEV program, assistance is still available through the Tuition Assistance program and other graduate education programs as listed on the Navy Personnel

Command Professional Development and Special Placement Branch
(PERS 440) Web site at www.persnet.navy.mil/pers440.

For more information on Navy education and training, visit the
NETC Web site at <https://www.netc.navy.mil>.

For related news, visit the Naval Education and Training Command
Navy NewsStand page at www.news.navy.mil/local/cnet.

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NETN0105 CNATRA Accepting Applications for Navy Flight
Demonstration Squadron CO, story by Lt. Robert Lyon,
Chief of Naval Air Training Public Affairs

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas (NNS) -- The Chief of Naval Air Training
(CNATRA), Rear Adm. George Mayer, announced that applications for
the position of Commanding Officer (CO) of the Navy Flight
Demonstration Squadron (NAVFLIGHTDEMRON) are now being accepted
and should be received no later than March 19.

Applicants must have 3,000 flight hours and be in command or have
had command of a tactical jet squadron. Letter of application
should include experience, qualifications, complete biography and
a completed CNATRA form 1331/1, which can be obtained by calling
the CNATRA admin office at DSN 861-3624 or can be obtained
directly from the NAVFLIGHTDEMRON Web site at
www.navy.com/blueangels or by calling the NAVFLIGHTDEMRON admin
office in El Centro, Calif., (Jan.-March) at DSN 658-2505/2502 or
commercial (760) 339-2505/2502.

Officers interested in the position of Commanding Officer,
NAVFLIGHTDEMRON must submit requests for consideration to their
immediate reporting senior to Chief of Naval Air Training, 250
Lexington Blvd., Suite 102, Corpus Christi, Texas, 78419-5041,
with informational copies to the Commanding Officer, Navy Flight
Demonstration Squadron, 390 San Carlos Road, Suite A, Pensacola,
Fla., 32508-5508, and the Chief of Naval Personnel (PERS 43).

Letters of endorsement or recommendation from persons other than
reporting senior are encouraged and will be incorporated into
applicant's jacket. The selection process for finalists will
include a personal interview by the Chief of Naval Air Training
and a handpicked group of aviation leaders the week April 20.

Questions may be directed to the CO, NAVFLIGHTDEMRON at DSN 658-2506 or to the CNATRA Chief of Staff at DSN 861-2278/2671 or commercial (361) 961-2287/2671.

Tentative selection is made by CNATRA, with final approval of the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Air Warfare N78) in the spring.

For related news, visit the Chief of Naval Air Training Navy NewsStand page at www.news.navy.mil/local/cnatra.

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NETN0106 Blue Angels Accepting Enlisted Applications, from Blue Angels Public Affairs

PENSACOLA, Fla. (NNS) -- The Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron (Blue Angels) is currently accepting applications for the 2005 season.

The application deadline is April 1, 2004, and selection results will be available no later than June 1, 2004.

All Navy personnel with projected rotation dates in July 2004 through February 2005 are being considered, but others may apply, pending Blue Angels and detailee approval. Personnel selected will normally detach from their present command October 2004 and report in mid-November 2004.

There are open billets at the E-5 and E-6 levels in virtually all aviation ratings. A normal tour of duty is three years and is considered Type 2 sea duty for rotational purposes. Outstanding E-4 performers will be considered.

There are also three E-5 or E-6 yeoman (YN) billets available. YN billets are Type 1 shore duty and only YNs completing a sea duty tour may apply.

Application details are outlined in NAVADMIN 298/03. Additional information and applications are available at www.blueangels.navy.mil or by contacting Chief Aviation Electrician's Mate (AW) L. Arrazola from January to March 2004 at DSN 658-2551/2505 or commercial (760) 339-2551/2505. After March 2004, contact him at DSN 922-2583 ext. 152 or commercial (850) 452-2583 ext. 152 or by e-mail at louis.arrazola@navy.mil.

For more news from around the fleet, visit the Navy NewsStand at www.news.navy.mil.

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NETN0107 NAVAIR to Provide Improved Management Structure for Aviation Students, story by Renee Hatcher, Naval Air Systems Command Public Affairs, PEO(A)

PATUXENT RIVER, Md. (NNS) -- The lives of naval aviation students as well as those who manage their training are about to get easier.

Naval Air Systems Command's (NAVAIR) Naval Undergraduate Flight Training Systems Program expects to have a new, single software application that manages all data associated with aviation training up and running at Naval Air Station (NAS) Corpus Christi, Texas, this spring, with the other Naval Aviation Training commands to follow. The software, known as the Training Integration Management System (TIMS), will communicate with database servers on each base, and then communicate with servers at the Chief of Naval Air Training Command (CNATRA) and the Air Force's Air Education and Training Command (AETC).

"For the first time, Navy and Air Force training will be digitally integrated," said Capt. David Wooten, of the Undergraduate Flight Training Systems Program. "TIMS is a centralized training system that will provide cradle-to-grave management of all training assets and student accomplishments."

The Air Force is the lead service for the TIMS effort with the Navy in a Joint Program Office based at Wright Patterson Air Force Base. TIMS was jointly developed by the Air Force and Navy, and was first implemented at Moody Air Force Base in May 2002. Since then, it has been deployed at three other Air Force sites. Several TIMS functions require modifications to meet Navy-specific applications before TIMS can be launched for the Navy.

TIMS will provide a single entry point for common information, like student biographical data. All of the training sites will be connected through TIMS so that students' records and data can be transferred electronically as they move through the aviation training pipeline.

It will also help squadron and wing schedulers in building flight schedules by automatically tracking all syllabus events. When a student finishes a computer-based training lesson, TIMS will track completion of that event so a scheduler can tell from his workstation if a student is ready for the next event in the syllabus. After a flight or simulator event, an instructor will complete a student's gradesheet in TIMS, and those results will be automatically available to a squadron scheduler at another workstation. If a student is scheduled for an event before he or she is actually ready to proceed to that event, TIMS will alert the scheduler to the conflict.

TIMS will standardize CNATRA's information management systems throughout the undergraduate aviation training community. It will replace three different legacy data management systems currently in use, including the Training Management System used at NAS Corpus Christi and NAS Pensacola, Fla., the Training Integration System used at NAS Kingsville, Texas, and NAS Meridian, Miss., and the Standard Training and Support System Flight at NAS Whiting Field, Fla.

"This is becoming increasingly important as we transition to more frequent cross-training of our aviators," said Lt. Cmdr. Tom Cecil, a NAVAIR representative in the Joint Primary Aircraft Training Systems Program Office at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. "This should make record keeping and record transfer simpler, since students and instructors will use the same system, regardless of what training base they are on."

TIMS will give CNATRA more current information on the status of undergraduate aviation training. Data from each site will be transferred to NAS Corpus Christi every 24 hours. This will give CNATRA immediate access to the current status of students and resources at each base. Eventually, CNATRA and AETC will be connected through a virtual private network, allowing each service to monitor their own students being trained by the other service. TIMS uses an open architecture and is designed to accommodate future expansion of its embedded management functions, as well as the number of installed sites.

"This is a unique training management system that will consolidate the many functions and interrelationships in the undergraduate flight training environment," Wooten said. "TIMS will link the Air Force and Navy training sites in a way that we have never been connected before, making it easier to train the best aviators possible."

For related news, visit the NAVAIR - Naval Air Systems Command Navy NewsStand page at www.news.navy.mil/local/navair.

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NETN0108 CONSEP Offers Sailors Mid-Career Guidance, story by
Journalist 3rd Class (SW) Melissa Pinsonneault, Naval
Amphibious Base Little Creek Public Affairs

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (NNS) -- There comes a time for every Sailor to make the decision on whether or not to stay Navy. That decision may not always be an easy one to make, but fortunately, there is a program that can help service members determine which path is right for them.

The Career Options and Navy Skills Evaluation Program (CONSEP) is a four-day mid-career course specifically designed for military personnel with four-to-12 years of service and are within 18-24 months from their end of active obligated service (EAOS).

"Although the program has been implemented Navywide for over two years, the concept of the workshop was formed in 1996, when the Chief of Naval Personnel approved an initiative to incorporate elements of the Transition Assistance Program into a workshop for our mid-term Sailors," stated CONSEP Program Manager Conley White.

CONSEP provides substantial information on professional career development throughout the Sailor's career. Each day is broken down into four main topics, which include personal planning, methods to enhance financial stability, civilian and career planning. The class provides a Sailor an overall look at the pros and cons of staying in the service or stepping out.

"Although the program is geared to highlight the advantages of staying in, it does offer training to help you make a smooth transition into the civilian sector," commented White.

Participants are instructed in resume writing, interview techniques, and marketing and networking just to name a few. Navy career counselors along with Navy College experts are brought in on the last day to address the Sailors' career concerns. Participants who successfully complete CONSEP are eligible for two college credits through the University of Colorado.

The CONSEP workshops are taught at several of the Fleet and Family Support Centers in the Hampton Roads area, including Naval Station Norfolk, Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek and Naval Air Station Oceana.

"This is great training for those who may be at the crossroads in their military careers and need to make an informed decision. I also firmly believe that at this level of training, we are 'developing' our Sailors and whether they choose to stay or leave the military, they will be much more successful. It is a win-win situation," White said.

Mess Management Specialist 1st Class Renita Inmon, who attended the class in September, was very impressed by CONSEP.

"The class provides powerful tools and resources that Sailors can utilize to make sound career decisions in either the Navy or the civilian world. And the information can be passed down to others who may be approaching their EAOS date, as well."

Storekeeper 1st Class (SW) Stanley Murray, who recently completed the class at Little Creek's Fleet and Family Support Center in November, said, "It's a great class and one that should be required annual training for all mid-level Sailors. I feel it will help them be more successful in and out of the military. It will prepare the younger Sailors and the seasoned leaders by providing them the necessary tools they desperately need in these times."

After the completion of the workshop, each participant receives a certificate of completion.

"Although the program is a retention tool, an individual that chooses not to 'Stay Navy' will still have the resources to secure a successful place in the civilian world," commented Navy Counselor 1st Class (SW) Kathy Grant from Little Creek.

For more information on CONSEP, call your local Fleet and Family Support Center or Conley White at (757) 445-7822.

For related news, visit the Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek Navy NewsStand page at www.news.navy.mil/local/nablcr.

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NETN0109 Navy Region Southeast Partners up with Florida
Community College, story by Journalist 2nd Class Mike
England, Naval Air Station Jacksonville Public Affairs

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (NNS) -- Navy Region Southeast (CRNSE) and Florida Community College Jacksonville (FCCJ) signed an agreement Dec. 15 that will provide CNRSE Sailors with greater educational opportunities.

The agreement will award earned credit to Sailors who complete environmental management courses offered by the CNRSE Port Operations Oil and Hazardous Substance Spill Response Training Cell (OHS).

Sailors can apply these credits at FCCJ's Institute of Occupational Safety and Health College. The Institute developed an Environmental Science Associates degree with tracks in the fields of Assessment/Safety Compliance, Environmental Science Technology, HAZMAT [hazardous materials] Technology and Watershed Management.

"This agreement benefits both the Navy and the Sailors who take the courses," said the Director of Emergency Response and Training Programs Matt Bailey. "The Navy will save valuable tuition assistance dollars, and Sailors will save time by not having to repeat the courses in college," Bailey added.

The OHS-taught courses train port operations Sailors to respond to major hazardous waste spills, as well as familiarize them with strict federal, state, and local Occupation Safety and Health Administration and Environmental Protection Agency laws, rules and regulations.

"All of these courses were evaluated by a faculty subject matter expert to ensure that they met FCCJ standards," said Executive Director of Military Education and Corporate College Dr. Bruce Brunson.

"Alton Scott, the program facilitator at the Occupational Health and Safety College, spent a lot of time analyzing every aspect of the courses," Brunson added.

Bailey was quick to praise Rear Adm. Annette E. Brown, Commander, Navy Region Southeast and Capt. Matthew Schellhorn, who serves as both Commanding Officer of Naval Station Mayport and Port Operations Manager for CNRSE, for their input and support.

"Their support made all the difference," Bailey said.

Bailey also said that none of this would have been possible without the help of Amy Lee, an OHS instructor or Chief Boatswain's Mate (SW) Pedro Nales of Port Operations.

Visit FCCJ's website at www.fccj.org or call Amy Lee at (904) 542-2369 for more information on the courses offered by OHS.

For related news, visit the Naval Air Station Jacksonville Navy NewsStand page at www.news.navy.mil/local/nasjax.

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NETN0110 Navy Pharmacist Honored with Award, story by Rod Duren, Naval Hospital Pensacola Public Affairs

PENSACOLA, Fla. (NNS) -- The only Navy pharmacist to have deployed inside Iraq doubles as the head of the pharmacy department at Naval Hospital (NH) Pensacola.

When he's not "making meds" in the desert of southern Iraq or preparing to implement the first-ever bar coding prescription tracking device at a military medical facility, he's taking a day off to accept an award as the Navy's Senior Pharmacist of the Year.

Lt. Cmdr. Anthony Capano, who's been with NH Pensacola for almost two years, received the Navy-wide pharmacist award from Capt. Elizabeth Nolan, Navy pharmacy specialty leader, at a Navy dinner at the Combined Forces Pharmacy Seminar in Nashville, Tenn., Oct. 22.

"I'm grateful, but the recognition is really for all the hard work that the (pharmacy) staff does," said the Revere, Mass., native. "I never would have gotten the award if it hadn't been for the 48 people in the department working as hard as they work every day."

NH Pensacola is the Navy's fourth busiest pharmacy, having filled more than 808,000 prescriptions and refills during fiscal year 2003.

Under Capano's direction, the pharmacy department is in the process of completing plans for a drive-through, refill-prescription pharmacy facility at the nearby Navy Exchange Mall.

On the in-patient side of pharmacy, Capano's team will soon make NH Pensacola the first-ever military hospital to implement an automated recording process for administering and tracking prescriptions given to patients. The bar-code tracking system will follow "every step in the process" of a medication -- from its' administration all the way to the patient.

Capano holds a bachelor's degree from Northeastern University in Boston and a master's degree in management from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Calif.

For related news, visit the Naval Hospital Pensacola, Fla. Navy NewsStand page at www.news.navy.mil/local/nh_pensacola.

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NETN0111 Specialized Training Offered for Reserve Mess Management Specialists, from Commander, Naval Reserve Force Public Affairs

NEW ORLEANS (NNS) -- Commander, Naval Reserve Forces Command will fund quotas for Mess Management Specialist (MS) Culinary Arts Training. Scheduled for April 19-30 and May 10-21, 2004, the classes will be conducted at First Coast Technical Culinary Arts Institute in St. Augustine, Fla.

Ten MSs, in pay grades E-6 and below, will be selected for each class.

The program is an excellent opportunity to recognize superior performance and enhance food service standards. Individual chains of command will verify the members' Expiration of Active Obligated Service and physical readiness.

Although 'A' school is not required, nominees should have at least three years of experience as an MS. MSs who attend are expected to return to the Naval Reserve Activity (NRA) and pass gained knowledge along to other MSs.

E-mail requests should be sent via respective NRAs to Chief Interior Communications Electrician Leroy Garcia at

leroy.garcial@navy.mil, and should include the applicant's name, rank, gender, social security number, phone number, e-mail address, the NRA's name, UIC and a point of contact, as well as the requested class date.

The submission deadline is Feb. 13.

For related news, visit the Commander Naval Reserve Force Navy NewsStand page at www.news.navy.mil/local/nrf.

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NETN0112 Naval Institute Announces Essay Contests, from the Naval Institute

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (NETN) -- For more than 130 years, the Naval Institute has served as an open forum to advance the understanding of sea power and other issues critical to national security. The Institute is currently soliciting inputs for two upcoming essay contests.

The annual Vincent Astor Memorial Leadership Essay Contest is targeted at officers in paygrades O-1 through O-3. The deadline for this contest is February 1, 2004. Essays must be original works of 3,500 words or less on the topic of leadership, and must not have been previously published.

The second contest is the Armed Forces Joint Warfighting Essay Contest with a deadline of May 1, 2004. This contest is open to anyone, and essays may be on any subject relating to combat in a joint context. Essays may be heavy in service-specific detail, but must have joint application and be 3,000 words or less.

Both contests offer cash prizes, membership in Naval Institute, and publication of winning essays in *Proceedings* magazine. For more information, visit www.navalinstitute.org, or call the Naval Institute, toll-free, at 1-800-233-8764.

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